

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

intercepting a communication from a calling party to a device associated with a particular user;

receiving information pertaining to the communication;

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the received information;

determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new-mode-of-delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication;

reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

routing the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving data comprises:

accessing a database for call preference information corresponding to the user.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the call preference information comprises an indication of a device to which communications should be forwarded.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device to be a device indicated in the call preference information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device to be a predetermined default device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device to be a device last used by the user.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting a time period during which a particular device is the preferred device.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising:

determining whether the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, comprising:
routing the communication to voice mail based on a determination that the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein routing comprises~~
comprising:

~~forwarding routing~~ the communication to the preferred device without ~~changing a~~
~~type of incoming data associated with~~ reformatting the communication ~~when if the~~
preferred device does not require a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein routing comprises:~~
~~changing a type of incoming data associated with the communication based on a~~
~~determination that the preferred device requires a new mode of delivery; and~~
~~forwarding the communication to the preferred device after changing the type of~~
~~incoming data~~ the data format of the device of the calling party comprises voice data
and the data format of the preferred device of the user comprises text data, or vice
versa.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 1, wherein ~~changing~~
reformatting the communication comprises:
sending a request for a ~~new type of incoming data to a~~ the data format of the
device ~~associated with~~ used by the calling party; and

receiving ~~new incoming data with a data type matching the new type~~ the reformatted communication from the device used by the calling party.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, comprising:
providing the device associated with the calling party with a graphical interface
for use in entering the ~~new incoming data~~ reformatted communication.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein ~~changing~~
reformatting the communication comprises:
automatically converting incoming data associated with the communication to
new incoming data with ~~a new data type~~ the data format of the preferred device of the
user.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein ascertaining comprises:
determining whether incoming data associated with the communication has a
data type that is accepted by the preferred device.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a communication to a preferred
device, comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a data network;

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information;

determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

initiating a first call to a device of the calling party;

initiating a second call to the preferred device of the user;

~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new-mode-of-delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication;

reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

connecting the first call ~~and~~ to the second call in the data format of the preferred device based on the ascertaining.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the action comprises clicking on a hyperlink.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein retrieving data comprises:
obtaining, from a database, call preference information corresponding to the user.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the call preference information comprises an indication of a device to which communications should be forwarded.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device to be a device indicated in the call preference information.

22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device to be a predetermined default device.

23. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device to be a device last used by the user.

24. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting a time period during which a particular device is the preferred device.

25. (Original) The method of claim 17, comprising:

retrieving data corresponding to the calling party; and

determining a preferred device of the calling party based on the retrieved data.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein retrieving data corresponding to the calling party comprises:

accessing a database for call preference information corresponding to the calling party.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the call preference information corresponding to the calling party comprises an indication of a device to which communications to the calling party should be forwarded.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein determining a preferred device of the calling party comprises:

specifying the preferred device of the calling party to be a device indicated in the call preference information.

29. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein determining a preferred device of the calling party comprises:

specifying the preferred device of the calling party to be a predetermined default device.

30. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein determining a preferred device of the calling party comprises:

specifying the preferred device of the calling party to be a device last used by the calling party.

31. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein determining a preferred device of the calling party comprises:

specifying the preferred device of the calling party based on information reflecting a time period during which a particular device is the preferred device of the calling party.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein ~~ascertaining~~
determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a different data format
than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication comprises:

determining whether incoming data associated with the first call has a data ~~type~~
format that is accepted by the preferred device of the user.

33. (Original) The method of claim 17, comprising:

determining whether the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, comprising:

routing the first call to voice mail based on a determination that the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein connecting comprises:

bridging the first call and second call without ~~changing a type of incoming data associated with the first call when~~ reformatting the communication if the preferred device of the user does not require a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein ~~connecting~~ comprises:

~~changing a type of incoming data associated with the first call based on a determination that the preferred device requires a new mode of delivery; and~~

~~bridging the first call and the second call~~ the data format of the device of the calling party comprises voice data and the data format of the preferred device of the user comprises text data, or vice versa.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein ~~changing~~ reformatting the communication comprises:

sending a request for ~~a new type of incoming data to a~~ the data format of the preferred device of the calling party; and

receiving ~~new incoming data with a data type matching the new type~~ the reformatted communication from the device used by the calling party.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37, comprising:

providing the preferred device of the calling party with a graphical interface for use in entering the ~~new incoming data~~ reformatted communication.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~36~~ 17, wherein ~~changing~~
reformatting the communication comprises:

automatically converting incoming data associated with the first call to new
incoming data with ~~a new data type~~ the data format of the preferred device of the user.

40. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a communication to a preferred
device, comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling
party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a
data network;

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the received information;

determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

initiating a first call to a device of the calling party;

initiating a second call to the preferred device of the user; and

connecting the first call ~~and~~ to the second call.

41-51. (Canceled)

52. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a
preferred device, comprising:

means for intercepting a communication from a calling party to a device
associated with a particular user;

means for receiving information pertaining to the communication;

means for retrieving data corresponding to the user using information pertaining to the communication;

means for determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

means for ~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication;

means for reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

means for routing the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~.

53. (Original) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for retrieving comprising:
means for accessing a database for call preference information corresponding to the user.

54. (Original) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the call preference information comprises an indication of a device to which communications should be forwarded.

55. (Original) The apparatus of claim 53, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device to be a device indicated in the call preference information.

56. (Original) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device to be a predetermined default device.

57. (Original) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device to be a device last used by the user.

58. (Original) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting a time period during which a particular device is the preferred device.

59. (Original) The apparatus of claim 52, comprising:

means for determining whether the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

60. (Original) The apparatus of claim 59, comprising:

means for routing the communication to voice mail based on a determination that the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

61. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for routing comprising:

means for forwarding the communication to the preferred device without ~~changing a type of incoming data associated with~~ reformatting the communication when if the preferred device does not require a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format.

62. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 52, ~~the means for routing~~ comprising:

~~means for changing a type of incoming data associated with the communication based on a determination that the preferred device requires a new mode of delivery;~~
and

~~means for forwarding the communication to the preferred device after changing the type of incoming data~~ wherein the data format of the device of the calling party comprises voice data and the data format of the preferred device of the user comprises text data, or vice versa.

63. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 62 52, the means for ~~changing reformatting the communication~~ comprising:

means for sending a request for a ~~new type of incoming data to a~~ the data format of the device associated with used by the calling party; and

means for receiving ~~new incoming data with a data type matching the new type~~ the reformatted communication from the device used by the calling party.

64. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 63, comprising:
means for providing the device associated with the calling party with a graphical interface for use in entering the ~~new incoming data~~ reformatted communication.

65. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 62, the means for ~~changing~~ reformatting the communication comprising:
means for automatically converting incoming data associated with the communication to new incoming data with a ~~new data type~~ the data format of the preferred device of the user.

67. (Canceled)

68. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:
means for receiving information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a data network;
means for retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information;
means for determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;
means for initiating a first call to a device of the calling party;
means for initiating a second call to the preferred device of the user;

means for ~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication;

means for reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

means for connecting the first call ~~and~~ to the second call in the data format of the preferred device based on the ascertaining.

69. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the action comprises clicking on a hyperlink.

70. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for retrieving comprising:
means for accessing a database for call preference information corresponding to the user.

71. (Original) The apparatus of claim 70, wherein the call preference information comprises an indication of a device to which communications should be forwarded.

72. (Original) The apparatus of claim 70, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device to be a device indicated in the call preference information.

73. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for determining comprising:
means for specifying the preferred device to be a predetermined default device.

74. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for determining comprising:
means for specifying the preferred device to be a device last used by the user.

75. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for determining comprising:
means for specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting a time period during which a particular device is the preferred device.

76. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, comprising:
means for retrieving data corresponding to the calling party; and
means for determining a preferred device of the calling party based on the retrieved data.

77. (Original) The apparatus of claim 76, the means for retrieving data corresponding to the calling party comprising:
means for accessing a database for call preference information corresponding to the calling party.

78. (Original) The apparatus of claim 77, wherein the call preference information corresponding to the calling party comprises an indication of a device to which communications to the calling party should be forwarded.

79. (Original) The apparatus of claim 76, the means for determining a preferred device of the calling party comprising:
means for specifying the preferred device of the calling party to be a device indicated in the call preference information.

80. (Original) The apparatus of claim 76, the means for determining a preferred device of the calling party comprising:
means for specifying the preferred device of the calling party to be a predetermined default device.

81. (Original) The apparatus of claim 76, the means for determining a preferred device of the calling party comprising:
means for specifying the preferred device of the calling party to be a device last used by the calling party.

82. (Original) The apparatus of claim 76, the means for determining a preferred device of the calling party comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device of the calling party based on information reflecting a time period during which a particular device is the preferred device of the calling party.

83. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for ascertaining comprising:

means for determining whether incoming data associated with the first call has a data type that is accepted by the preferred device of the user.

84. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, comprising:

means for determining whether the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

85. (Original) The apparatus of claim 84, comprising:

means for routing the first call to voice mail based on a determination that the user is associated with a do not disturb mode.

86. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for connecting comprising:

means for bridging the first call and second call without ~~changing a type of incoming data associated with the first call when~~ reformatting the communication if the preferred device of the user does not require a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format.

87. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the means for
connecting comprising:

~~means for changing a type of incoming data associated with the first call based~~
~~on a determination that the preferred device requires a new mode of delivery; and~~

~~means for bridging the first call and the second call~~ the data format of the device
of the calling party comprises voice data and the data format of the preferred device of
the user comprises text data, or vice versa.

88. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 87, the means for ~~changing~~
reformatting the communication comprising:

~~means for sending a request for a new type of incoming data to a~~ the data format
of the preferred device of the calling party; and

~~means for receiving new incoming data with a data type matching the new type~~
the reformatted communication from the device used by the calling party.

89. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 88, comprising:

~~means for providing the preferred device of the calling party with a graphical~~
~~interface for use in entering the new incoming data~~ reformatted communication.

90. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~87~~ 68, the means for ~~changing~~
reformatting the communication comprising:

means for automatically converting incoming data associated with the first call to new incoming data with ~~a new data type~~ the data format of the preferred device of the user.

91. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

means for receiving information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a data network;

means for retrieving data corresponding to the user using the received information;

means for determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

means for initiating a first call to a device of the calling party;

means for initiating a second call to the preferred device of the user; and

means for connecting the first call ~~and~~ to the second call.

92-102. (Canceled)

103. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

a memory having a program that intercepts a communication from a calling party to a device associated with a particular user, receives information pertaining to the

communication, retrieves data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the communication, determines a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data, ~~ascertains~~ determines whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication, reformats the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format, and routes the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~; and

a processor that runs the program.

104. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

a memory having a program that: receives information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a data network; retrieves data corresponding to the user using the received information; determines a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data; initiates a first call to a device of the calling party; initiates a second call to the preferred device of the user; ~~ascertains~~ determines whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication; reformats the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and connects the first call ~~and~~ to the second call in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~; and

a processor that runs the program.

105. (Canceled)

106. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium ~~containing~~ encoded
with instructions capable of being executed by a computer for routing a communication
to a preferred device, the instructions comprising:

intercepting a communication from a calling party to a device associated with a
particular user;

receiving information pertaining to the communication;

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the
communication;

determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new-~~
~~mode-of-delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate
the communication;

reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device
if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

routing the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format
of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~.

107. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium ~~containing~~ encoded with instructions capable of being executed by a computer for routing a communication to a preferred device, the instructions comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a data network;

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the received information;

determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

initiating a first call to a device of the calling party;

initiating a second call to the preferred device of the user;

~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a new-
~~mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate
the communication;

reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device
if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

connecting the first call ~~and~~ to the second call in the data format of the preferred
device based on the ascertaining.

108. (Canceled)

109. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

a first server operable to intercept a communication from a calling party to a device associated with a particular user, receive information pertaining to the communication, retrieve data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the communication, determine a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data, ~~and ascertain~~ determine whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new-mode-of-delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication, and reformat the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and

a second server operable to route the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining.~~

110. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

a first server operable to: receive information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on a data network; retrieve data corresponding to the user using the received information; determine a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data; and

a second server operable to initiate a first call to a device of the calling party and initiate a second call to the preferred device of the user, wherein

the first server ~~ascertains~~ determines whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new-mode-of-delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication and, if so, reformats the communication to match the

data format of the preferred device, and the second server connects the first call ~~and to~~
the second call based on the ascertaining.

111. (Canceled)

112. (Currently Amended) A system for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

a voice network;

a data network; and

a service center operable to: intercept a communication from a calling party to a device associated with a user; receive information pertaining to the communication; retrieve data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the communication; determine a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data, wherein the preferred device is one of a plurality of devices associated with the user; ~~ascertains~~ determines whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication; reformats the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and routes the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining.~~

113. (Currently Amended) A system for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

a voice network;

a data network; and

a service center operable to: receive information pertaining to a communication to the user from a calling party, the communication to the user being initiated by an action of the calling party on the data network; retrieve data corresponding to the user using the received information; determine a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data, wherein the preferred device is one of a plurality of devices associated with the user; initiate a first call to a device of the calling party; initiate a second call to the preferred device of the user; ~~ascertain~~ determine whether the preferred device of the user requires a ~~new mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate the communication; reformat the communication to match the data format of the preferred device if the preferred device requires a different data format; and connect the first call ~~and~~ to the second call in the data format of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~.

114. (Canceled)

115. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting the user's location.

116. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein determining a preferred device comprises:

specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting the user's location.

117. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein determining a preferred device of the calling party comprises:

specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting the calling party's location.

118. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting the user's location.

119. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 68, the means for determining comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting the user's location.

120. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 76, the means for determining a preferred device of the calling party comprising:

means for specifying the preferred device based on information reflecting the calling party's location.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the predetermined default device is the device used by the calling party to initiate the communication.

122. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the predetermined default device is the device used by the calling party to initiate the communication.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein intercepting a communication comprises:
detecting the communication from the calling party; and
intercepting the communication upon detecting an intercept trigger associated with the communication.

124. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 52, the means for intercepting a communication comprising:
means for detecting the communication from the calling party; and
means for intercepting the communication upon detecting an intercept trigger associated with the communication.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein sending a request comprises:

presenting an appropriate overlay to communicate with the preferred device of the user.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein sending a request comprises:

presenting an appropriate overlay to communicate with the preferred device of the user.

127. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 63, the means for sending a request comprising:

means for presenting an appropriate overlay to communicate with the preferred device of the user.

128. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 88, the means for sending a request comprising:

means for presenting an appropriate overlay to communicate with the preferred device of the user.

129. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a communication to a preferred device, comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a communication to a user from a calling party;

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the received information;

determining a preferred device of the user based on the retrieved data;

~~ascertaining~~ determining whether the preferred device of the user requires a new-
~~mode of delivery~~ different data format than a device used by the calling party to initiate
the communication;

reformatting the communication to match the data format of the preferred device,
if the preferred device requires a different data format, the reformatting comprising
presenting the calling party with an appropriate overlay to communicate with the
preferred device of the user ~~based on the ascertaining~~; and

routing the communication to the preferred device of the user in the data format
of the preferred device ~~based on the ascertaining~~.